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NEWS

NMTBA
The Association For
Manufacturing Technology

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Contact: Charles Pollock

MACHINE TOOL ORDERS DIP IN OCTOBER

Net new machine tool orders for October stood at $264.15 million, down 19.5% compared to September's $328.20 million, according to figures released today by NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology. October metal cutting machine tool orders fell 18.5% to $217.30 million, while metal forming equipment orders fell 24.1% to $46.85 million.

Year-to-date total machine tool orders stand at $2,997.30 million, 72.2% ahead of the $1,740.10 million posted in the first 10 months of 1987. Through October 1988, metal cutting orders reached $2,275.05 million, up 91.5% from 1987's $1,188.10 million, while metal forming orders reached $722.25 million, up 30.8% from 1987's $552.00 million. Compared to October a year ago, October 1988 total orders are down 1.2%, with metal cutting orders up 9.7% and metal forming orders down 32.3%.

James A. Gray, NMTBA president, said, "We are very pleased with the machine tool order picture for 1988. We have seen generally steady gains throughout the year, especially in orders from overseas. Year-to-date foreign metal cutting orders are 174.5% ahead of 1987."

"Manufacturers both here and abroad are now watchful," Gray noted, "waiting to see what steps the incoming American administration will be taking to keep our economy on the strong course set over the last eight years. It will be important to U.S. manufacturers that conditions conducive to free and fair trade continue. The

(MORE)

7901 WESTPARK DRIVE, McLEAN, VIRGINIA 22102-4269 / PHONE (703) 893-2900 / TLX: 353819 / FAX (703)893-1151

U.S. machine tool industry has demonstrated that it is competitive overseas and U.S. manufacturers are steadily expanding their efforts in foreign markets."

At $1,850.15 million, year-to-date total machine tool shipments were slightly below 1987, down 0.4%, with metal cutting shipments down 9.7% and metal forming shipments up 22.8%. Comparing October 1988 to October 1987, total shipments are up 1.7%, with metal cutting up 9.0% and metal forming down 11.4%.

October 1988 total shipments stood at $213.30 million, down 6.3% compared to the previous month. October 1988 shipments of metal cutting equipment fell 2.7% to $147.05 million, while metal forming shipments fell 13.2% to $66.25 million.

The machine tool order backlog for October 1988 stood at $2,146.65 million, up from September's $2,095.80 million.

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COMPARISON CHART

NET NEW ORDERS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
OCT 1988	201.15	16.15	217.30	40.00	6.85	46.85	241.15	23.00	264.15
SEP 1988	252.95	13.55	266.50	51.65	10.05	61.70	304.60	23.60	328.20
% CHANGE									
OCT 1988:SEP 1988	-20.5	+19.2	-18.5	-22.6	-31.8	-24.1	-20.8	-2.5	-19.5
OCT 1987	187.15	11.00	198.15	59.55	9.70	69.25	246.70	20.70	267.40
% CHANGE									
OCT 1988:OCT 1987	+7.5	+46.8	+9.7	-32.8	-29.4	-32.3	-2.2	+11.1	-1.2
YEAR TO DATE 1988	1,961.55	313.50	2,275.05	622.90	99.35	722.25	2,584.45	412.85	2,997.30
YEAR TO DATE 1987	1,073.90	114.20	1,188.10	445.05	106.95	552.00	1,518.95	221.15	1,740.10
% CHANGE									
1988 : 1987	+82.7	+174.5	+91.5	+40.0	-7.1	+30.8	+70.1	+86.7	+72.2

SHIPMENTS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
OCT 1988	124.50	22.55	147.05	55.30	10.95	66.25	179.80	33.50	213.30
SEP 1988	133.50	17.70	151.20	65.70	10.65	76.35	199.20	28.35	227.55
% CHANGE									
OCT 1988:SEP 1988	-6.7	+27.4	-2.7	-15.8	+2.8	-13.2	-9.7	+18.2	-6.3
OCT 1987	117.95	16.90	134.85	63.25	11.55	74.80	181.20	28.45	209.65
% CHANGE									
OCT 1988:OCT 1987	+5.6	+33.4	+9.0	-12.6	-5.2	-11.4	-0.8	+17.8	+1.7
YEAR TO DATE 1988	1,058.15	137.40	1,195.55	557.75	96.85	654.60	1,615.90	234.25	1,850.15
YEAR TO DATE 1987	1,179.75	144.60	1,324.35	455.45	77.40	532.85	1,635.20	222.00	1,857.20
% CHANGE									
1988 : 1987	-10.3	-5.0	-9.7	+22.5	+25.1	+22.8	-1.2	+5.5	-0.4

Source: NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology

TOTAL INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
MACHINE TOOLS - CUTTING AND FORMING
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$1,830.50	$ 288.30	$2,118.80	$ 999.50	$2,036.75	$ 286.90	$2,323.65
1988							
JAN	$ 266.05	$ 31.45	$ 297.50	$1,153.65	$ 125.65	$ 17.70	$ 143.35
FEB	$ 258.85	$ 39.20	$ 298.05	$1,285.25	$ 145.10	$ 21.35	$ 166.45
MAR	$ 222.05	$ 32.40	$ 254.45	$1,333.00	$ 185.75	$ 20.95	$ 206.70
APR	$ 193.45	$ 59.55	$ 253.00	$1,428.60	$ 133.90	$ 23.50	$ 157.40
MAY	$ 278.90	$ 45.80	$ 324.70	$1,573.60	$ 157.60	$ 22.10	$ 179.70
JUN	$ 345.25	$ 37.55	$ 382.80	$1,742.35	$ 185.25	$ 28.80	$ 214.05
JUL	$ 221.35	$ 33.60	$ 254.95	$1,809.60	$ 169.90	$ 17.80	$ 187.70
AUG	$ 252.80	$ 86.70	$ 339.50	$1,995.15	$ 133.75	$ 20.20	$ 153.95
SEP	$ 304.60	$ 23.60	$ 328.20	$2,095.80	$ 199.20	$ 28.35	$ 227.55
OCT (P)	$ 241.15	$ 23.00	$ 264.15	$2,146.65	$ 179.80	$ 33.50	$ 213.30
10 MONTHS	$2,584.45	$ 412.85	$2,997.30		$1,615.90	$ 234.25	$1,850.15

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$1,949.10	$ 303.40	$2,252.50	$ 118.60	$ 15.10	$ 133.70
1988						
JAN	$ 268.95	$ 32.30	$ 301.25	$ 2.90	$ .85	$ 3.75
FEB	$ 265.15	$ 39.35	$ 304.50	$ 6.30	$ .15	$ 6.45
MAR	$ 227.55	$ 33.10	$ 260.65	$ 5.50	$ .70	$ 6.20
APR	$ 208.15	$ 62.00	$ 270.15	$ 14.70	$ 2.45	$ 17.15
MAY	$ 287.20	$ 46.10	$ 333.30	$ 8.30	$ .30	$ 8.60
JUN	$ 352.35	$ 38.95	$ 391.30	$ 7.10	$ 1.40	$ 8.50
JUL	$ 227.60	$ 34.10	$ 261.70	$ 6.25	$ .50	$ 6.75
AUG	$ 262.05	$ 88.05	$ 350.10	$ 9.25	$ 1.35	$ 10.60
SEP	$ 314.25	$ 25.30	$ 339.55	$ 9.65	$ 1.70	$ 11.35
OCT (P)	$ 257.95	$ 24.45	$ 282.40	$ 16.80	$ 1.45	$ 18.25
10 MONTHS	$2,671.20	$ 423.70	$3,094.90	$ 86.75	$ 10.85	$ 97.60

P - Preliminary
NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL CUTTING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$1,294.45	$ 157.00	$1,451.45	$ 672.20	$1,498.85	$ 177.65	$1,676.50
1988							
JAN	$ 205.75	$ 18.20	$ 223.95	$ 824.95	$ 61.60	$ 9.60	$ 71.20
FEB	$ 217.95	$ 32.45	$ 250.40	$ 966.45	$ 97.00	$ 11.90	$ 108.90
MAR	$ 174.15	$ 17.75	$ 191.90	$1,020.60	$ 123.95	$ 13.80	$ 137.75
APR	$ 146.45	$ 48.85	$ 195.30	$1,120.60	$ 82.20	$ 13.10	$ 95.30
MAY	$ 205.65	$ 37.20	$ 242.85	$1,252.20	$ 100.25	$ 11.00	$ 111.25
JUN	$ 210.65	$ 27.70	$ 238.35	$1,357.75	$ 116.00	$ 16.80	$ 132.80
JUL	$ 167.55	$ 19.45	$ 187.00	$1,410.05	$ 126.15	$ 8.55	$ 134.70
AUG	$ 179.30	$ 82.20	$ 261.50	$1,566.15	$ 93.00	$ 12.40	$ 105.40
SEP	$ 252.95	$ 13.55	$ 266.50	$1,681.45	$ 133.50	$ 17.70	$ 151.20
OCT (P)	$ 201.15	$ 16.15	$ 217.30	$1,751.70	$ 124.50	$ 22.55	$ 147.05
10 MONTHS	$1,961.55	$ 313.50	$2,275.05		$1,058.15	$ 137.40	$1,195.55

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$1,365.85	$ 167.35	$1,533.20	$ 71.40	$ 10.35	$ 81.75
1988						
JAN	$ 207.35	$ 18.80	$ 226.15	$ 1.60	$ .60	$ 2.20
FEB	$ 221.05	$ 32.55	$ 253.60	$ 3.10	$ .10	$ 3.20
MAR	$ 178.10	$ 17.95	$ 196.05	$ 3.95	$ .20	$ 4.15
APR	$ 150.30	$ 50.50	$ 200.80	$ 3.85	$ 1.65	$ 5.50
MAY	$ 210.40	$ 37.45	$ 247.85	$ 4.75	$ .25	$ 5.00
JUN	$ 216.85	$ 29.00	$ 245.85	$ 6.20	$ 1.30	$ 7.50
JUL	$ 172.40	$ 19.70	$ 192.10	$ 4.85	$ .25	$ 5.10
AUG	$ 186.20	$ 83.15	$ 269.35	$ 6.90	$ .95	$ 7.85
SEP	$ 260.45	$ 14.40	$ 274.85	$ 7.50	$ .85	$ 8.35
OCT (P)	$ 212.35	$ 17.55	$ 229.90	$ 11.20	$ 1.40	$ 12.60
10 MONTHS	$2,015.45	$ 321.05	$2,336.50	$ 53.90	$ 7.55	$ 61.45

P - Preliminary
NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL FORMING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$ 536.05	$ 131.30	$ 667.35	$ 327.30	$ 537.90	$ 109.25	$ 647.15
1988							
JAN	$ 60.30	$ 13.25	$ 73.55	$ 328.70	$ 64.05	$ 8.10	$ 72.15
FEB	$ 40.90	$ 6.75	$ 47.65	$ 318.80	$ 48.10	$ 9.45	$ 57.55
MAR	$ 47.90	$ 14.65	$ 62.55	$ 312.40	$ 61.80	$ 7.15	$ 68.95
APR	$ 47.00	$ 10.70	$ 57.70	$ 308.00	$ 51.70	$ 10.40	$ 62.10
MAY	$ 73.25	$ 8.60	$ 81.85	$ 321.40	$ 57.35	$ 11.10	$ 68.45
JUN	$ 134.60	$ 9.85	$ 144.45	$ 384.60	$ 69.25	$ 12.00	$ 81.25
JUL	$ 53.80	$ 14.15	$ 67.95	$ 399.55	$ 43.75	$ 9.25	$ 53.00
AUG	$ 73.50	$ 4.50	$ 78.00	$ 429.00	$ 40.75	$ 7.80	$ 48.55
SEP	$ 51.65	$ 10.05	$ 61.70	$ 414.35	$ 65.70	$ 10.65	$ 76.35
OCT (P)	$ 40.00	$ 6.85	$ 46.85	$ 394.95	$ 55.30	$ 10.95	$ 66.25
10 MONTHS	$ 622.90	$ 99.35	$ 722.25		$ 557.75	$ 96.85	$ 654.60

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$ 583.25	$ 136.05	$ 719.30	$ 47.20	$ 4.75	$ 51.95
1988						
JAN	$ 61.60	$ 13.50	$ 75.10	$ 1.30	$ .25	$ 1.55
FEB	$ 44.10	$ 6.80	$ 50.90	$ 3.20	$ .05	$ 3.25
MAR	$ 49.45	$ 15.15	$ 64.60	$ 1.55	$ .50	$ 2.05
APR	$ 57.85	$ 11.50	$ 69.35	$ 10.85	$ .80	$ 11.65
MAY	$ 76.80	$ 8.65	$ 85.45	$ 3.55	$ .05	$ 3.60
JUN	$ 135.50	$ 9.95	$ 145.45	$ .90	$ .10	$ 1.00
JUL	$ 55.20	$ 14.40	$ 69.60	$ 1.40	$ .25	$ 1.65
AUG	$ 75.85	$ 4.90	$ 80.75	$ 2.35	$ .40	$ 2.75
SEP	$ 53.80	$ 10.90	$ 64.70	$ 2.15	$ .85	$ 3.00
OCT (P)	$ 45.60	$ 6.90	$ 52.50	$ 5.60	$ .05	$ 5.65
10 MONTHS	$ 655.75	$ 102.65	$ 758.40	$ 32.85	$ 3.30	$ 36.15

P - Preliminary
NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.